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June 1, 2006

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications & Energy
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
One South Station – 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02210

Re: **D.T.E. 03-87 - Semi-annual Double Pole Report**

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

This letter constitutes Verizon Massachusetts' ("Verizon MA") narrative regarding the statewide semi-annual double pole report, which it filed on May 5, 2006, under separate cover on behalf of the utilities, in accordance with the standardized format adopted by the Department in the September 1, 2005, Hearing Officer ruling in this docket. The May 5th semi-annual report covers the period between November 1, 2005 and April 30, 2006, and displays the data in two categories: backlog double poles and new double poles. Backlog double poles are those placed on or before January 31, 2004, while new double poles are those placed after January 31, 2004.

Significant progress has been made in reducing the number of backlog double poles in Massachusetts. At the start of the reporting period, there were over 33,000 backlog double poles. Through April 2006, approximately 23,000 – or 70 percent - of the total backlog double poles were removed. Verizon has eliminated 100 percent of its solely owned backlog double poles in 48 communities and 90 percent of the jointly owned backlog double poles in 86 communities. Of the 10,057 backlogged double poles remaining, approximately 50 percent are concentrated in 35 communities statewide. By continuing to target those communities, meaningful progress continues to be made toward eliminating the backlog double poles by Verizon MA's targeted date of second quarter of 2007, as described in the removal plan filed on January 27, 2004, pursuant to the Department's directives in its November 28, 2003, Report and Order.

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During the reporting period, 4,194 new double poles were placed primarily due to electric company infrastructure upgrades. Even though 16 percent more new double poles were removed this reporting period, as compared with the last reporting period, the net result was an increase of nearly 1,300 double poles over 90 days. If the Department has any questions or would like to discuss this narrative further, I can be reached at 617-743-9250.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John L. Conroy

John L. Conroy

cc: Attached DTE 03-87 Service List